

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 10, 21-23, 25, 30-32, 34, 36, and 38 are pending in the application. Claims 26-28, 33, 35, and 37 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 10, 21-23, 25-28, and 30-38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukasawa et al. (USP 6,638,780) in view of Chen (USP 4,914,731) in view of Sommers (US 2003/0180037) and Wu (USP 6,481,130). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to claim:

an LED light source for emitting illumination light with a plurality of light-emitting diodes mounted on said circuit board, the plurality of light-emitting diodes including radially placed light-emitting diodes of different colors; and

a single reflector, having a substantially rectangular shape in plan perpendicular to a light-emitting direction of the LED light source and having reflecting surfaces, for reflecting ahead the light emitted from said LED light source, the single reflector defining only a single opening and being formed independently from the reflecting surface and provided above the reflecting surface, such that said only a single opening surrounds the plurality of light-emitting diodes, and said reflector having an opened rear thereof closed by said reflecting surface when mounted on said circuit board. (*emphasis added*)

Independent claims 6 and 23 have also been amended in a similar manner.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that Fukasawa discloses, in Figs. 2 and 5, “a lighting apparatus comprising an LED light source with a plurality of LED’s mounted on a circuit board (24), and a single reflector (21) . . . being provided . . . so as to surround the LED light source (12).

In deed, Fukasawa discloses, in Fig. 2, a plurality of LEDs 12 mounted on a substrate 11 and sealed in a transparent layer 15. Fukasawa also discloses, in Fig. 5, a plurality of openings formed in a transparent layer 18, on which a reflector layer 21 is formed as shown in Fig. 4. In other words, Fukasawa arguably discloses a reflector defining a plurality of openings, such that each opening surrounds only a single LED 12. In view of this, Fukasawa does not disclose or suggest “the single reflector defining only a single opening . . . , such that said only a single opening surrounds the plurality of light-emitting diodes,” as recited in claim 1.

The Chen reference has been relied upon to show that a reflecting surface formed on a circuit board is known in the art. The Sommers reference has been relied upon to show that incorporation of the lighting apparatus into a camera as a flash device is known in the art. The Wu reference has been relied upon to show that a claw having horizontal and vertical sections is known in the art.

Further, none of the cited references, taken singly or in combination, discloses or suggests providing a plurality of light-emitting diodes that includes “radially placed light-emitting diodes of different colors,” as recited in claim 1. This feature is disclosed in Fig. 6 and described in page 7, line 27 - page 8, line 6 of the specification.

In view of this, even assuming that the Examiner’s interpretation of the cited references are reasonable, which Applicants do not admit, these references, taken singly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the foregoing claimed features of the present invention.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 21, 22, 30, and 34, dependent on claim 1, as allowable at least for their dependency on claim .1

Claims 6 and 23 are allowable at least for the similar reasons as stated in the foregoing with regard to claim 1.

Claims 10, 25, 31, and 36, dependent on claim 6, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 6.

Claims 32 and 38, dependent on claim 23, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 23.

Claims 26-28, 33, 35, and 37 have been canceled.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and objections, and allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi Reg. No. 40.417 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

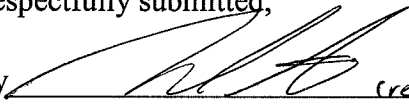
Application No. 10/759,421
Amendment dated April 24, 2009
Reply to Office Action of December 26, 2008

Docket No.: 0879-0425P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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